

REMARKS

Claims 25-38 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 25-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has questioned the adequacy of description for certain claim features. The Applicants respectfully point out the particular sections of the specification as supporting the questioned features in the claims. It should be noted that the particular sections of the specification listed below are merely illustrations of the support for claims in the specification, and which can be found throughout the specification.

1. Claim 25:

(a) Claim Feature: "...to extract first information about"

The recitation "first information" refers to the information extracted from the speech utterance input. This recitation is adequately supported in the specification. For example, "The speech recognizer 50 receives spoken input through a suitable microphone which may be incorporated into the remote control, into a hands free device...Output from the speech

recognizer is supplied to a natural language parser 52", (Application, page 6, lines 11-15). In this example, the first information broadly refers to the set of information formed by the input and outputs of the speech recognition, subsequent parsing and dialog processes, which are described in detail across pages 6-18. The "extract first information" (claim 25) process includes parsing, which "...uses pre-defined goal oriented grammar to identify different user requests", (page 6, lines 16-18). In this context, user requests can be considered to be the first information. The above examples may be better understood by using the application Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

(b) Claim Feature: "based on said first information, extracting second information from the user data store..."

The "second information" is described in sufficient detail in the specification. For example, "...the replay file system may include associated user data records, illustrated at 24....user data records may include, for example, the dates and times a particular program content was viewed..." (page 4, lines 11-18). The second information broadly refers to the information in the user data records 24 shown in Fig. 1. This second information, i.e., a given one record of the user data records 24, is extracted on the basis of the processed user speech input. This extraction process is clearly shown in Fig. 1, where the user data records 16 which are themselves part of the file system structure 16, are accessed (i.e.,

extracted) by the speech processing units (50, 52,54) through the file system access 56.

(c) Claim Feature: “using said first and second information to identify...”

The process of using the first and second information to identify a specific file from the group of files is well supported in the specification. For example, the first information, which is broadly the user's request processed by the speech processing units is channeled through the dialog system which “...responds to both output from the natural language parser 52 and also to on-screen prompted input” (pages 6, line 21-page 7 line 1). The dialog system, using the first information, can obtain the second information, i.e., the user data store information, because “The dialog system is provided with a file system access module 56” (page 7, lines 4-5). Thereafter, the file system access module 56 “...accesses the replay file system records to return all the file system records that match the user's request” (page 7, lines 5-6). Hence, the claim feature of “using said first and second information to identify at least one specific file...” is well supported in the specification.

(d) Claim Feature “performing a management operation upon said specific file”

File management operations can be of several types. For example, “...a user can readily access any previously recorded information without

the need for time consuming searching” (page 1, lines 13-15). Further examples are, “...to suggest to the user which recorded programs may be deleted when the capacity of the recording device is near full” (page 1, lines 19-20); “The dialog system 54 may also guide the user through other system operations, including the recording operation and other maintenance functions” (page 7, lines 18-20); and “...erase one or more previously recorded programs...” (page 8, lines 2-3).

2. Claim 26:

- (a) Claim Feature “...based on said first information, extracting third information from said program data store; and using said third information along with said first and second information to identify at least one specific file from said group of entertainment media files.”

Adequate support for the above claim feature is available in the specification. For example, the program data store is described as , “Associated with each storage location is a collection of additional data that is extracted from the electronic program guide...” (page 3, lines 18-20). The “third information” sourced from the “said program data store” can include one or more items from the stored program details, for example, “..a program identifier record 20...program category (movie, news, weather, etc.) which network broadcasts the program...the date and time of broadcast...actors...directors” (page 3, lines 20-page 4, line 6). Thereafter, the first, second and third information are used to access the specific entertainment media files. This whole process of interaction is

well described in an illustration on page 7 (lines 7-17). Therefore, the above referred claim feature is adequately described in the specification.

3. Claim 35:

(a) Claim Feature "...that contains said first information"

The specification's support for the "first information" feature is described above in detail. The same examples can be used here to explain the first information claim feature.

4. Claim 36:

(a) Claim Feature "...that expands upon said first information"

The specification's support for the "first information" feature is described above in detail. The same examples can be used here to explain the "first information" claim feature.

The applicants respectfully submit that they have shown support in the specification for all rejections raised by the Examiner. There are no other rejections of the claims, and hence all claims pending in the application are in an allowable condition.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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